



News From

Maggie Brooks

Monroe County Executive

For Immediate Release

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LEGISLATURE ADOPTS BROOKS' 2007 BUDGET

Brooks' Budget Freezes Property Tax Rate for Third Straight Year

The Monroe County Legislature has adopted County Executive Maggie Brooks' 2007 County Budget. The Budget was adopted on December 12, 2006.

"The 2007 County Budget is balanced. It controls spending, maintains services, preserves our quality of life, and keeps faith with the taxpayers of our community," said **Brooks**.

The 2007 Budget keeps the property tax rate flat at \$9.10.

As she did when she presented the County Budget to the Legislature last month, Brooks cautioned that while the 2007 Budget is fully funded, the multi-year forecast predicts a combined budget gap of \$100.1 million for 2008 and 2009, with projected costs increases exceeding available revenue in those years. Brooks noted mandated spending, which includes Medicaid, is 79 percent of the County Budget. Non-mandated spending, the amount the County actually controls, is 21 percent of the Budget.

"Looking ahead, we still face the daunting challenge of fixing a long-term structural deficit that will top \$100 million. This deficit is the direct result of the growing demands Albany has placed on us. We must continue to push for a long-term community solution that will enable us to achieve our goal of long-term fiscal stability in Monroe County," **Brooks** concluded.

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